

## WASHINGTON

## RECONSTRUCTION OF THE CABINET

## Mr. Washburne Appointed Minister to France.

## Hamilton Fish, Secretary of State.

## George S. Boutwell, Secretary of the Treasury.

## GENERAL RAWLINS SECRETARY OF WAR

## The Ex-Rebel General Longstreet Appointed Surveyor of Customs in New Orleans.

## Formal Reception of the Diplomatic Corps by the President.

## BINCKLEY ON HIS MUSCLE.

## He Assaults Commissioners Rollins and Harland.

## Discussion on the Public Credit Bill in the Senate.

## WASHINGTON, March 11, 1869.

## Excitement over Cabinet Matters Abating—New England Jubilant over the New Appointments—Western Politicians Deeply Chagrined.

The excitement about the Cabinet has at length subsided. The agony as it has been called is over. Stewart and the act of 1869 are forgotten, and the politicians have settled down to a feeling of more or less satisfaction with the complexion of the Cabinet. The New England men are in ecstasies. The Western men are chagrined. California is altogether disappointed, and swears roundly against the special favor extended to pure and undefiled Yankeeism. On the whole, however, the selection for the Treasury is acceptable, and so are the others for State and War Departments. Everybody is just now trying to recollect the record of Hamilton Fish as Secretary of the United States, and there is a very prevalent impression that his appointment is one that will give very general satisfaction to the country. General Rawlins is looked upon as a temporary appointment because of the General's enfeebled and infirm health. His fitness for the duties of the office is unquestioned, and his selection is not but another proof that President Grant is not disposed to overlook the claims of his tried and trusted friends. Boutwell is accorded all the merit of high and unimpeachable integrity and will no doubt endeavor to signalize his administration of the Treasury by a strict effort to weed out corruption and incompetency. The minor nominations sent into the Senate to-day were, in the matter of the Louisiana delegation in Congress, Casey, for Collector of Customs, was objected to on the singular score of being a carpet bagger, which is but another illustration of the motive and the beam principle of criticism. Republicans of the conservative stripe were unanimous in their approval of Longstreet's nomination, but the extremists were dissatisfied and rejected the idea that any rebel could render aid to the Government or be loyal to the flag.

## Appointments by the President.

The President to-day transmitted the following nominations to the Senate:

George S. Boutwell, of Massachusetts, to be Secretary of the Treasury.

Hamilton Fish, of New York, to be Secretary of State.

General John A. Rawlins, of Illinois, to be Secretary of War.

F. B. Washburne, of Illinois, to be Minister to France.

Frank Moore to be Assistant Secretary of the Louisiana delegation.

A. K. Smart to be Marshal for the District of Columbia.

C. A. Newcomb to be Marshal for the district of Missouri.

James Longstreet to be Surveyor of Customs for the port of New Orleans.

James F. Casey to be Collector of Customs at New Orleans.

Sidney A. Stockdale to be Collector of Internal Revenue for the First district of Louisiana.

Edward V. Kinsley, of New York, to be Secretary of the United States Legation at Madrid.

Chief Engineer James W. King to be Chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering. President Grant states at the bottom of this, "in place of Isherwood, whom I desire removed."

## Confirmations by the Senate.

The Senate, having been in executive session a few minutes, confirmed Mr. Washburne as Minister to France, in place of Mr. Dix, resigned; also Mr. Boutwell, Secretary of the Treasury, Rawlins for War and Fish for State.

## Appointment of Foreign Envoys.

Curtis's name would have gone in to-day for the Russian mission, also Motley's for the English mission, and Rubby's, editor of the Madison (Wis.) Journal, for the Swiss mission, but for a little hitch. Some difficulty occurred and Grant determined to postpone action till to-morrow. It is believed he will send in all three of these nominations to-morrow and that they will be confirmed. Cameron, though opposed bitterly to Curtis, will vote for his confirmation in order to get him out of the country. By this exile of Motley's principal, Cameron hopes to have Pennsylvania patronage all to himself. Horace Greeley is also mentioned to-night for the English or Austrian mission.

Among the batch sent in to-day was Kinsley, vice Perry, secretary of legation to Madrid, in accordance with the recommendation of Minister Hale, who has had a hard time with the present secretary. Mr. Perry, the latter was kept in the position by Seward, contrary to the protests of Mr. Hale, and there were causes assigned for the action of the late Secretary of State not at all creditable to his reputation. Perry's removal requires the New Hampshire delegation. Colonel F. E. Moore, who is to go out with Washburne to France, will officiate as assistant secretary of legation. He is a clever, intelligent gentleman, and very popular among all classes here.

## Tweets of Visitors at the White House.

The crowd of visitors at the Executive Mansion to-day was greater than at any other day. The President entered upon the duties of his office. There was a perfect avalanche of cards showered upon General Grant for presentation to the President. Private interviews were granted to a great many of the callers, including among them Senators Cole, Craig, Kellogg, Sumner, Drake, Schurz, Williams, Sawyer, Stewart, Fowler, Governor Reed, of Florida, and also many Representatives, among them Messrs. Banks, Hawley, Paine, Darling and others. Besides this a vast number of persons were admitted to the President's office before twelve o'clock, the hour of closing the doors to visitors.

## The Diplomatic Corps Call Upon the President.

The Diplomatic Corps called on the President this afternoon at two o'clock and were introduced by Secretary Washburne. They were attired in their

elaborate court costumes. Baron Gerolt then addressed the President. He said:

Mr. President—The representatives of foreign nations accredited to the Government of the United States have the honor, on this occasion, to renew the assurance of their sincere wishes for the prosperity of your Republic and of the nation which has entrusted to you the executive power of the Government of the United States. In the name of my colleagues, I express the most sincere hopes that the friendly relations now existing between the United States and other nations will be maintained under your administration. Such, Mr. President, will be the aim of our most earnest and constant endeavors.

The President in response said:

BARON GEROLT AND GENTLEMEN OF THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS—I heartily thank you for the kind expression of your good wishes for my welfare and that of the nation which has chosen me as its Chief Magistrate. You may be assured that it shall be my constant endeavor to maintain those relations of peace and friendship which now exist between the United States and the countries which you respectively represent, a purpose which I am happy to learn from you, will be fully reciprocated.

The Diplomatic Corps then withdrew.

## A Delegation of Georgia Republicans Received by the President.

A delegation of the members of the Georgia Legislature, headed by Foster Bloodgett, chairman of the Republican State Committee, and accompanied by J. W. Clark, member of Congress; Colonel Hopkins and General H. H. Turner and J. M. Simms, two of the lately expelled members of the Georgia Legislature, waited upon the President about three o'clock this afternoon to present the resolutions of the Republican State Convention held on the 5th instant, setting forth their grievances and sufferings and asking that the reconstruction acts and the act of admission of June 25, 1868, be literally complied with. The delegation was received in the ante-room by General Grant, and after waiting a short time was presented to the President in his private office. Mr. Bloodgett addressed him upon the subject of their visit. The points presented for consideration of the President are, first, the truthfulness of their grievances and the reasons therefor; second, they point out remedies therefor; third, they earnestly and urgently, but most respectfully, ask Congress and the President to apply the remedy. After shaking hands with the delegation individually General Grant listened to the address of Mr. Bloodgett, and upon its conclusion said he could not make any reply to what had been said at present. It was a matter he would have to think about and talk over. He wanted to see one thing very much, and that was all classes of the people protected in their opinions everywhere. He desired to see the speedy establishment of law and order in the South. He said he had seen in the papers that the Legislature of Georgia to-day had voted on the difficult amendment, and inquired how they would dispose of it. Mr. Bloodgett replied that they would pass it. The Democrats in the Legislature had informed him that they would vote on the case. Congress having inflicted negro suffrage on them they were now going to try and inflict it, in turn, on the d—d Yankees.

The President smiled, and said that was more than he had expected, and seemed pleased at the prospect of so easy a solution of the vexed question. The interview then terminated.

## Secretary Washburne Resigns His Portfolio—His Correspondence with the President.

The following correspondence has taken place between the President of the United States and Mr. Washburne:

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 16, 1869.

TO THE PRESIDENT:

When you did me the honor to confer upon me the appointment of Secretary of State I felt constrained to state to you that my health would prevent me from holding the position for any considerable period of time. I do so with regret that I am unable to discharge the duties of the office which involve more labor and responsibility than I am willing to undertake. I do so with regret that I am unable to discharge the duties of the office which involve more labor and responsibility than I am willing to undertake.

It is, however, my duty to resign, and I do so with regret that I am unable to discharge the duties of the office which involve more labor and responsibility than I am willing to undertake.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant, F. B. WASHBURN.

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

When you did me the honor to confer upon me the appointment of Secretary of State I felt constrained to state to you that my health would prevent me from holding the position for any considerable period of time. I do so with regret that I am unable to discharge the duties of the office which involve more labor and responsibility than I am willing to undertake.

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General Cochrane, Colonel Frank E. Rowe, Adm. R. L. Ladd and Burt Van Horn are being pressed for the position of Naval Officer. It is conceded that the New York Senators will be allowed to name their men for all the New York city appointments, and that the other local appointments will be granted to the New York Representatives. This arrangement is in accordance with an agreement which entered into by the Pennsylvania Senators and Representatives, to wit: That the Senators shall have the appointments in democratic districts and the Congressmen in all the other districts. All the New York districts being democratic the Senators came in for the lion's share of the spoils. Fenton seems to have the upper hand in the matter.

## The Overland Mail.

The Post Office Department has received information that connection between the Union Pacific and Central Pacific railroads was resumed on Tuesday, after four weeks' suspension, and that twenty tons of mail matter, which had accumulated on the way, has been forwarded to the Pacific coast. A telegram from Ogden, Utah, states that ten tons of California mail had accumulated at the end of the track, and the contractors had made arrangements to take it to the end of the Central Pacific road. The route agents were directed to continue in charge of the mail, going with mail trains.

## The Irrepressible Binckley on His Muscle—He Wants a Word with Ex-Commissioner Rollins, Who Takes to His Heels, Encounters Harland, and Knocks Him Down, and Finally Retires on His Laurels to Breakfast.

Those familiar with the workings of the Internal Revenue Bureau here have for a long time past—indeed, since the time of the memorable New York whiskey fraud investigation—been cognizant of the fact that trouble was brewing between the Commissioner of that bureau and the Solicitor thereof. It was well known that bad feeling existed between Mr. Rollins and Mr. Binckley, although the latter continued to hold his official position, which was owing entirely to the fact that he could not be ousted so long as President Johnson and Secretary McCulloch stayed in office. With the advent of General Grant Commissioner Rollins saw there was an opportunity to get rid of Binckley, and the highly caustic letter to the President, which has already been given to the public, was the cause of Mr. Binckley's dismissal. The spirit in which this letter was written and the statements it contained were what incensed Mr. Binckley rather than the dismissal from office which resulted from it; and, smarting under a keen realization of his wrong, Mr. Binckley started from home this morning before breakfast with the deliberate intention of encountering Mr. Rollins on his return from breakfast, and before he should be surrounded by his clerks and messengers, and then and there inflicting upon him personal chastisement. Near the corner of Fourteenth and F streets he observed the ex-commissioner and at once proceeded towards him. It was evident that Mr. Rollins had no intention of marking Binckley's hostile advance and had resolved not to notice him.

"Now then, sir, a word with you Mr. Rollins, if you please," exclaimed Binckley, who threw off his cloak as he spoke.

Mr. Rollins, however, instead of stopping for the wished for word took to his heels, it is said, and made excellent time for his quarters, which were in the Internal Revenue Building. Binckley kept up the chase for a short distance, but suddenly realizing that he was not signing before the public in a very dignified manner, he drew up, returned, picked up his cloak and took his way homeward in no very agreeable frame of mind, resolved to fortify the latter man with breakfast and early fortify upon the war path; but as luck would have it, as the late Binckley strode fiercely homeward he suddenly encountered on New York avenue the Deputy Commissioner of Internal Revenue, Thomas Harland. At sight of him Binckley's belligerent propensities were fully aroused, and he exclaimed, "I have just chased your boss because he would not fight. Now, sir, will you fight?"

"Certainly," replied Harland, who at once prepared for defence; but Binckley was too quick for him, and succeeded in planting a powerful blow in Harland's face, which knocked him down. After he fell Binckley kicked him two or three times, when Harland gained his feet and the two antagonists clinched. Scarcely a blow was exchanged after closing before the men were separated by some clerks of the Revenue Department, and a policeman arrived on the spot at the same time.

"Here, Mr. Policeman, take charge of this man; he is crazy," said Mr. Harland, who departed on his way, while Binckley moved in an opposite course with the policeman.

Mr. Binckley, unassisted by the policeman, repaired to the office of Justice Walter and stated that he had assaulted two men and desired to enter into his own recognizance to appear in case he should be wanted. Justice Walter required him to furnish bail in the sum of \$300, and Binckley went home with a good appetite for breakfast.

## Removal of the Internal Revenue Bureau.

The removal of the Internal Revenue Bureau from Rigns & Plant's building, corner of Fifteenth and G streets, to the north wing of the Treasury Department was accomplished this afternoon, but it will probably be a week or ten days before the entire clerical force is in the new quarters.

## Visitors at the Internal Revenue Bureau.

Commissioner Delano is completely overrun with visitors this morning. It is almost impossible to reach him for the mass of visitors in his office.

## Chief Clerk of the Navy Department.

Mr. Holmes E. Omy to-day has been formally appointed Chief Clerk of the Navy Department.

## Customs Receipts.

Customs receipts from March 1 to 6th, inclusive: \$1,000,000; New York, \$2,345,000; Philadelphia, \$142,000; Baltimore, \$142,231; New Orleans, February 22 to 27th, \$46,008, \$3,961,630.

## Busy Times with Congressmen.

Many Senators and Representatives desire a statement to be made that owing to the constant requirements, day and night, of public business they are utterly unable to reply to the very large number of letters received by them within the last twelve days.

## The Washington Post Office.

Among the applicants for postmaster of Washington city is Mrs. Josephine S. Griffing, a prominent advocate of female suffrage, and a petition is circulating for signatures with a view to secure the appointment.

## Seizure of Patent Office Clerks.

The present Appropriation bill necessitates the discharge from the Patent Office of twenty-one clerks of the second class and fourteen of the first class. While the reduction is being made the business of the office is steadily increasing, the month of February showing a larger business than any preceding month since the office was organized.

## The Supreme Court.

The United States Supreme Court to-day was engaged in hearing arguments in the following case:

No. 106—Farnon, Green & Co. vs. Nichol Clarke and the Collectors of Taxes of Davidson county, Tenn. Argument concluded.

## THE FORTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

First Session.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, March 11, 1869.

Various petitions, memorials, &c., were presented and referred. Among them are the following:

By Mr. SUMNER, (rep.) of Mass.—Of citizens of Texas, against the organization of that State under the constitution recently formed. Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Various bills were reported back from the committee. Among them are the following:

By Mr. ROSS, (rep.) of Kansas, from the Committee on Indian Affairs—For the relief of settlers on Indian lands in Kansas.

By Mr. GRIMES, (rep.) of Iowa, from the Committee on Naval Affairs—A bill for the reorganization of the navy, with amendments. Ordered to be printed.

It provides for the creation of a board of naval survey, to consist of three officers, not below the grade of rear admiral, who shall have general supervision of all matters relating to the construction and equipment of vessels, the management of navy yards, &c., and the recommendations in regard thereto to the Secretary of the Navy. To provide for the grade of lieutenant commander on the active list until the number of lieutenants is reduced to eight, which shall thereafter be the limit, and the number of masters and ensigns in the navy shall be fixed at 120. The names of officers, medical, pay and engineer corps, to be reduced to specified limits by ceasing to make promotions unless the number of officers of each grade is reduced to the specified limits. One brigadier general, one major general, one lieutenant general, one colonel, one lieutenant colonel, one major, one captain, one first lieutenant, one second lieutenant, one ensign, one quartermaster, one assistant quartermaster, one master, one assistant master, one principal musician, 150 sergeants, 150 corporals, 150 musicians, drummers and fifers, and 1,500 privates. The reduction to be made by ceasing promotions.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

By Mr. WILSON, (rep.) of Mass.—Granting 2,000,000 acres of public lands for the benefit of public schools in the District of Columbia. Referred to the Committee on Public Lands. Also for the removal of political disabilities from various persons. Referred to the Judiciary Committee. Also for the sale of the Chattahoochee River.

By Mr. HOWARD, (rep.) of Mich.—Authorizing the Southern Michigan Railroad Company to connect its line with the Detroit and Windsor Railroad Company. Referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

By Mr. POOL, (rep.) of N. C.—To dispense with the duties of the Post Office Service. Referred to the Post Office Committee.

By Mr. POMEROY, (rep.) of Kansas—For the improvement of the Kansas river and for the relief of the people of that State. Referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

By Mr. COBB, (rep.) of Oregon—To establish a department of Indian affairs. Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

Also to aid in the construction of the Oregon branch of the Pacific Railroad. Referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

By Mr. COLE, (rep.) of Cal.—To encourage and facilitate telegraphic communication. Referred to the Post Office Committee.

By Mr. FERRY, (rep.) of Conn.—To enforce the fourth article of the amendments to the constitution. Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

On motion of Mr. HARLAN, (rep.) of Iowa, the House joint resolution to supply an omission in the act relating to the duties of the Secretary of the Treasury by inserting in item of \$1,300 of A. B. Shepherd, amount of a check for Indian supplies, which check was lost by the Secretary of the Treasury, was adopted.

CLAIMS AGAINST VENEZUELA.

On motion the President was requested to inform the Senate whether the Government of Venezuela had paid the claims of American citizens against the Government of that country.

The Senate refused to act on the bill to strengthen the public credit and relating to contracts for the payment of coin.

The Senate refused to act on the bill striking out the second section, which legalizes contracts to be hereafter made specifically in gold or silver, and which has been in favor of the principle of the bill.

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